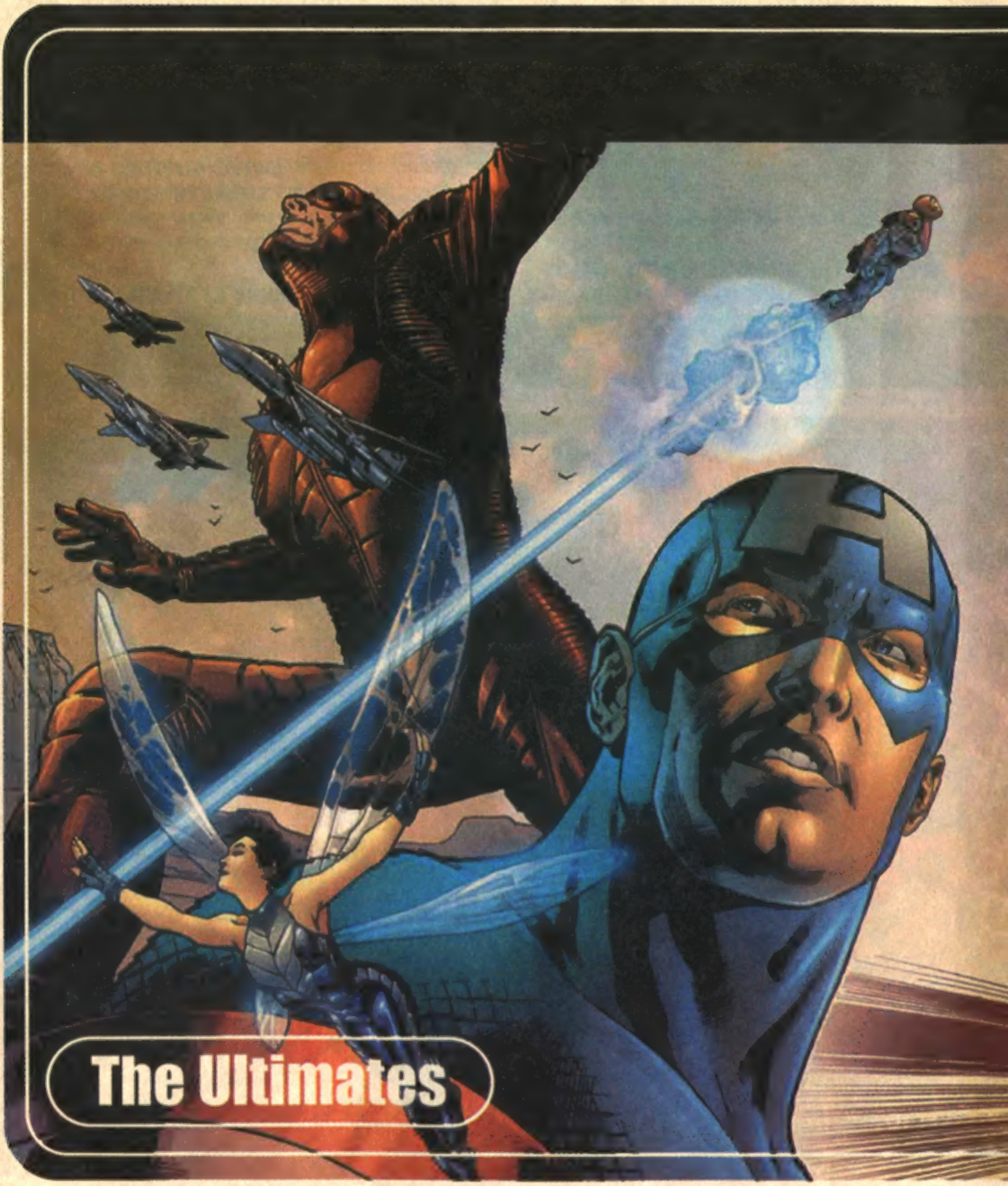
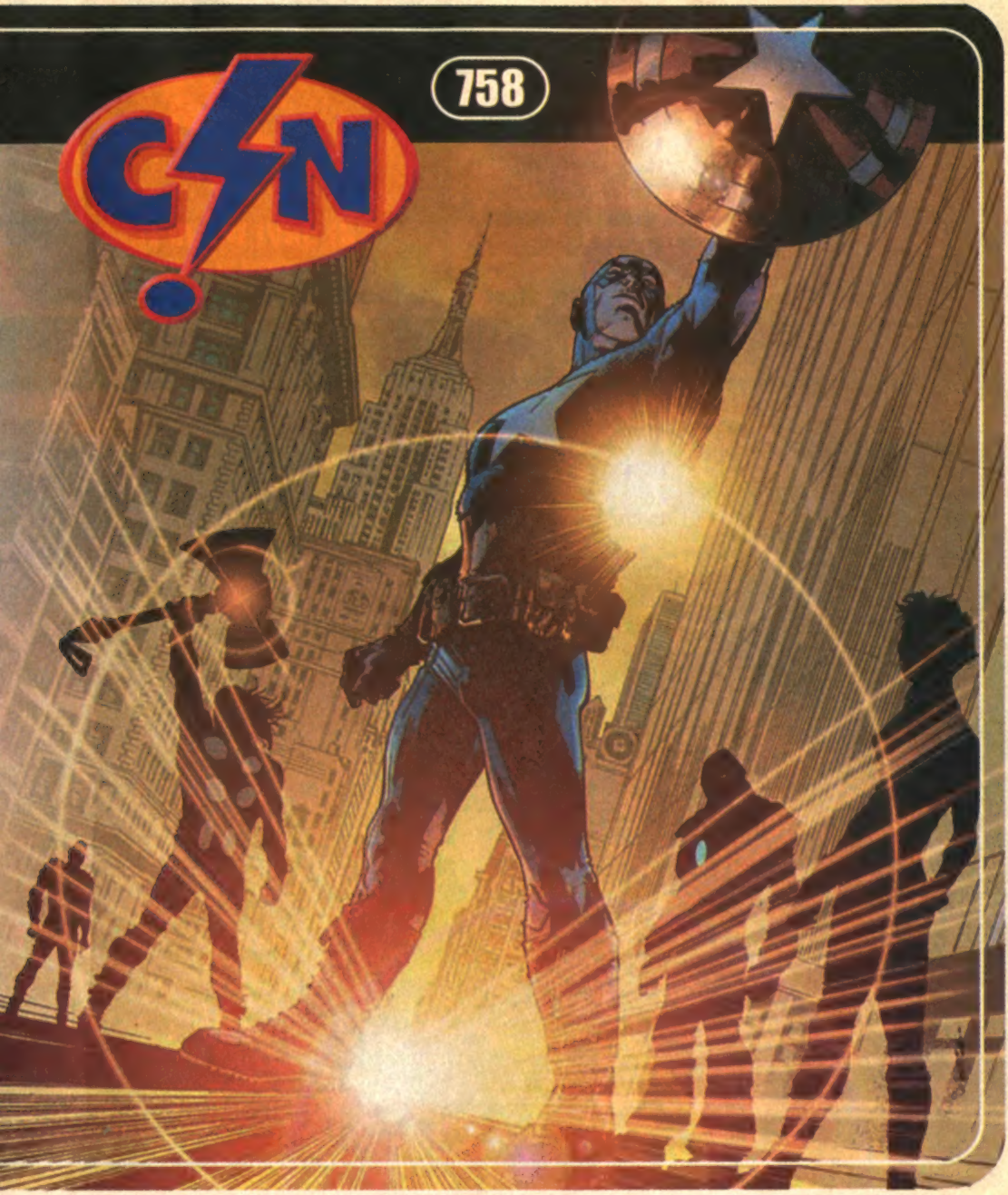

The Ultimates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Ultimate-ly, a Superteam

So what do you do when your world seems to have taken a turn toward the surreal? How do you cope with a world that seems to be filled with costumed heroes and super-powered villains and beings whose very existence seems to violate everything you know about biology, chemistry, and physics?

If you're Nick Fury, you fight fire with fire... by putting together your very own superteam—the *ultimate* superteam—and you charge them with the responsibility of protecting the world from beings like... well, like *them*!

Who do you draft for such a superteam? Well, you can start with an armored battlesuit-clad entrepreneur; add a scientist whose ability to grow to gigantic sizes helps him deal with her personal shortcomings; the Wasp, an extroverted mini-heroine with some secrets she keeps under her wing; a brilliant, self-controlled man who has an incredible way of letting it all out; and a New Age kind of guy with a big hammer. Oh, yeah, there's one more member of the team: a super-soldier who's epitomized American heroism since he made his appearance in WWII.

Now what do you call them? The Avengers? Naah—what are these guys avenging, anyway? They're the Ultimate super-team, so you call them...

The Ultimates!

"In a broad sense, this book is about the greatest heroes of our time getting together to defend the world," writer *Mark Millar* said. "However, that's also the high-concept for the JLA and pretty much every super-team book on the stands. What we have to do here is re-think everything we've ever taken for granted about super hero comics and throw away all of the clichés and formulas. This series—as well as the Ultimate line in general—has to feel as different from traditional comic books as Stan Lee's vision was to Golden Age DC."

It's ironic that Millar would mention the JLA, since he's joined by recent ***JLA*** artist *Bryan Hitch*, who's traded one superteam—and one publisher—for another. With inker *Andrew Currie*, Hitch is bringing the same big-event vitality to the series that he brought to his ***JLA*** tenure.

Not only does the name of this all-star team book differ from its Marvel Universe counterpart, but the heroic personalities and motivations are also different—as are the storylines. "***The Ultimates*** isn't going to be what anyone's expecting from either me or Hitch..." Millar said in a recent online chat. "It's very *chapter*-like. Issue one is all Cap in 1945 and it's really just one scene as we detail Cap's last mission in what's really a single take.

"It's paced very differently from work you might be familiar with, with issue two being almost all talking heads as we see a depressed Banner having lunch with Nick Fury, 500,000 ants helping Janet and Hank Pym with their removal, and Tony flying a new Iron Man prototype around New York. "Issue three is almost all Captain America again as we get a look at what it's like to suddenly wake up in 2001 and find out even the *kids* you remember are now either dead or drawing a pension. It's a very emotional book. Very violent in places, too, but with very sophisticated looks at the characters. And if you want to see Hulk chasing an A-list actor for twenty-two pages, check out issue five."

The Avengers are famous for their changing lineup (they were, in fact, the first superteam to go through radical membership changes from time to time); will ***The Ultimates*** continue that tradition? Don't look for a revolving door approach—Iron Man, the Hulk, Giant-Man, the Wasp, Thor, and Captain America are here to stay for a good while—but Millar explained that, "outside the core group who are in the first six, we're getting Black Widow and Hawkeye—plus an AI mechanoid created by Pym to make everyone like him again after he cracks the roof of Jan's mouth."

And what's in store for the remainder of the Ultimates' first year? Millar doesn't offer too many details, but he does explain that "'I'm killing *lots* of Skrulls in ***The Ultimates*** issues seven through twelve...."

Of course, Nick Fury will continue to make regular appearances in ***The Ultimates*** as well. In fact, Fury has appeared in virtually every Ultimate title at one point or another, and continues to play major roles in both ***Ultimate X-Men*** and ***The Ultimates***. "Nick Fury *is*—as readers will see as each book progresses—a secret nucleus around which many electrons twirl," Marvel marketing communications manager *Bill Rosemann* explained. "The glue that holds everything together. Not to mention the best dresser. First we saw him frustrate a certain Latverian dictator in ***Ultimate Marvel Team-Up***, then we saw him in all his smooth glory in ***Ultimate X-Men***. But readers will really get a good look at him in ***The Ultimates***.

"Which begs the question: if Fury is such a key player—and so darn cool to boot—would readers like to see an ***Ultimate Fury*** project? I know *I* would!" For the time being, though, fans will have to satisfy themselves with Fury's significant supporting role in ***The Ultimates*** and other ***Ultimate*** titles.

While *Mark Millar* doesn't plan on staying with ***The Ultimates*** forever, his schedule should keep his fans happy through the end of 2003, at least. "'I'm writing issue two of my second year on ***Ultimate X-Men*** right now. I'm doing two years in total [on ***Ultimate X-Men***] and two years on ***The Ultimates***."

Any chance that he might decide to stick around even longer? "...I said two years and two years it is. Had much the same problem on ***Authority***. It suddenly became this huge thing in the papers and I was offered a lot of cash to do a year two, but I stuck to my guns and the original plan. The minute you chase the dollar, you wave goodbye to your career. It's always best to move on when everybody else catches up. Brits know when to get off the stage."

However, that departure from the ***Ultimate*** stage is still twenty-four months away—and that leaves plenty of time for him to offer his readers the ***Ultimates*** excitement.

The Ultimates #1, a $2.25 comic, is scheduled for January 30th release.

By Cuff Biggers

The Dark Knight Makes History Again!

We told you it was going to be *big*, didn't we?

Truth is, no one knew that it would be *this* big!

Frank Miller and *Lynn Varley*'s ***The Dark Knight Strikes Again*** *#1* made history even before it went on sale: the book was the best-selling comic of the past five years, posting higher numbers than *Green Arrow #1, Origin #1, Ultimate Spider-Man #1, Ultimate X-Men #1*, or any other high profile debut, according to sales figures maintained by Diamond Comics Distributors. The book is also the best-selling comic in 2001, both in terms of total copies sold and in dollar volume. And that's before reorders are added in—and according to DC Comics, reorders have been so heavy that the company opened on a Saturday just to take reorders from retailers who needed more copies of the hit comic!

"Batman and Superman remain enduring American myths. But many folks don't realize how rich DC's pantheon of heroes is. These characters have a magic to them, and speak to fantasies shared by young and old," *Frank Miller* said. "Anybody who knows me would tell you I can't stop talking about it. It's an absolute joy to bring fresh eyes and long-held affection to these guys and gals in tights. This is a big, fat comic story; an often scary look at what kind of world could need these sorts of heroes, and what could be done to them and what they do—once the gloves are off. And brother, the gloves are *off*."

Will ***The Dark Knight Strikes Again*** equal or surpass total sales for the original ***Dark Knight Returns***, which has sold more than a million copies in its various editions? It's too early to tell, of course—but judging from the incredibly strong initial response, along with DC's strong history of support for major projects like this in later hardcover and trade paperback editions, it seems very possible. DC Comics Executive Vice President and Publisher *Paul Levitz* is understandably enthused about the book's incredibly strong sales success, as well as the overwhelmingly favorable critical acclaim the book has garnered already. "It's rare that any storyteller can keep his audience on the edge of their chairs for fifteen years, but Frank's pulled it off," said Levitz. ***"The Dark Knight Strikes Again*** is worth the wait. Frank's talent and craft have grown, and we're blown away by what his Batman looks like now."

Will the incredible response to ***The Dark Knight Strikes Again*** help add fuel to the fire regarding the Dark Knight Universe concept that Frank Miller first mentioned in ***CSN*** a few weeks back? "If he's up for it, I am too!" Executive Editor - DCU *Mike Carlin* told ***CSNsider***. "Clearly we're incredibly happy about the reception to ***DK2***... so I will join the chorus in screaming for more!"

(And in case you missed it, here's what *Frank Miller* told *CSN*: "But ***DK2*** isn't just a Batman story—it's my take on the whole DC pantheon, in the context of Dark Knight. It's a story full of horror, and full of hope.

"I suggested to *Jenette [Kahn]*, at one point, that DC allow me my own little wormhole in the DC Universe, called the DKU—the Dark Knight Universe. Where I could take their gods and heroes in my own directions. Who knows? Could be wild!"

Could be *quite* wild indeed!...)

For those who are already counting the days—***The Dark Knight Strikes Again*** *#2* is scheduled for January 16th release, with the third and final issue following on February 27th... and you gotta admit, an every-six-weeks schedule for an eighty-page-per-issue project like this is pretty wild in itself!

By Cuff Biggers

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!

Come Together Right Now

No doubt about it, comic creators and publishers want to help. In the months since the September 11th attacks, a number of charitable projects have been announced from various companies—and now DC, Dark Horse, Image, Chaos!, Oni Press, Top Shelf, and have joined forces to offer the most ambitious benefit package yet, a two-volume set that features more than four hundred pages of stories and art from some of the best-known creators in the field.

September 11, a two-volume set affordably priced at $9.95 per volume, should raise plenty of money for disaster aid, since 100% of the publishers' profits from the sale of the books will be donated to organizations for the relief of the victims of the September 11 tragedy, their families, and affected communities. To maximize the fund-raising efforts, all contributing writers and artists have donated their services, while Diamond Comic Distributors, Quebecor Printing, and others will contribute additional services.

Each volume of September 11 will contain a selection of powerful and moving stories interspersed with artwork inspired by the events of that fateful day. The assortment of creators involved is truly amazing, beginning with Will Eisner's dual contribution of a story in each of the two volumes. Additionally, Volume 1 contains *Frank Miller*'s reflections on the power of faith; *Jim Mahfood*'s personal view of the Arab-American experience before and after September 11, 2001; a story by *Alan Moore* and *Melinda Gebbie*; and *Bryan Talbot*'s reflection on the meaning of entertainment in the days after the attacks. Volume 2 features the first story added to the Sandman opus in two years with a Death and Destruction story by *Neil Gaiman* and *Chris Bachalo*; a new Krypto story by *Jeph Loeb*, *Carlos Pacheco* and *Jesús Merino*; a story of London during the Blitz by noted science-fiction/fantasy author *Michael Moorcock* and artists *Walter Simonson* and *Bob Wiacek*; and the reunion of Stan Lee and Marie Severin, who mark their first collaborative appearance in a DC book with their contribution to this collection.

Both volumes of ***September 11*** are scheduled for January 23rd release. The contents and contributors include:

•***September 11 Volume One*** (jointly produced by Chaos!, Dark Horse, and Image, with assistance from Oni Press, Top Shelf Productions, and others) - The New Yorker's *Eric Drooker* contributes a cover showing a cityscape that is simultaneously ancient and modern, mournful and hopeful, with an artist at the center, empowered to interpret a tragic landscape; behind the cover, readers will find contributions from *William Stout*, who shares the true story of a Yugoslavian citizen's love of Americans; *Stan Sakai*, vividly recalling his last visit to New York City; and *Paul Chadwick*, who offers his interpretation of the heroism of the passengers on Flight 93, whose sacrifice kept September 11 from being an even more tragic day.

Cartoonists *Tony Millionaire*, *Sam Henderson*, *Mike Diana*, *Scott Morse*, *Mark Crilley*, *Roger Langridge*, *Chris Eliopoulos*, and *Mark Martin* are among those offering differing takes on a range of subjects spanning from terrorism and heroism to survival and the challenges of parenting. Other stories include an illustrated essay by *Dean Motter*; a *Walt Whitman*-penned meditation on death illustrated by *Quique Alcatena*; *Darko Macan*'s "An Expert Opinion" on breaking the cycle of violence; and "TV. Exec Visits Ground Zero" by ***TV Funhouse*** creator *Robert Smigel* and his Ex-Presidents collaborator, artist *Michael Kupperman*.

The full list of contributors includes *Frank Miller*, *Jim Mahfood*, *David Chelsea*, *John Arcudi* & *Kevin Nowlan*, *Paul Sloboda*, *Paul Chadwick*, *Randy Stradley* & *Dave Gibbons*, *C. Scott Morse*, *Phil Elliot*, *Leland Myrick*, *Jeph Loeb* & *J. Scott Campbell*, *Mark Martin*, *Alcatêna*, *Doug Tennapel*, *Mike Huddleston*, *R. Sikoryak*, *Bob Harris* & *Darko Macan*, *Trina Robbins* & *Anne Timmons*, *Dave Cooper*, *Terry Anderson*, *Eric Drooker*, *Jim Valentino*, *Jamie S. Rich* & *Chynna Clugston-Major*, *Roger Langridge*, *Joe Casey* & *Sean Phillips*, *Bill Pressing*, *Dylan Horrocks*, *Anthony Johnston* & *Mike Norton*, *Layla Lawlor*, *P. Craig Russell*, *Peter Pachoumis*, *Steve Darnall* & *Hilary Barta*, *Laurie Ross*, *Enrico Casarosa*, *William Stout*, *Jim Mahfood*, *Marti Noxon* & *Scott Morse*, *Rantz Hoseley*, *Bob Harris* & *Gregory Ruth*, *Bryan Talbot*, *Brian McDonald* & *Brian O'Connell*, *Lark Pien*, *Will Eisner*, *Marie Croall*, *Dan Jolley* & *Eric Powell*, *Mitch O'Connell*, *Guy Davis*, *Tommy Lee Edwards* & *Melissa Edwards*, *Mira Friedman*, *Liniere*, *Sam Henderson*, *Jason Hall* & *Todd Herman*, *Fabian Nicieza* & *Cliff Richards*, *Chris Eliopoulos*, *Davidé Fabbri*, *Batton Lash*, *Brian Biggs*, *Robert Smigel* & *Michael Kupperman*, *Art Brooks* & *Daniel Acuna*, *Kelli Strom*, *Dean Motter*, *Tom DeFalco* & *Kelly Yates*, *Becky Cloonan*, *John Ostrander* & *Mary Mitchell*, *Steve Niles* & *Paul Lee*, *Roger Stern* & *Joe Orsak*, *Stephen Banes* & *Guy Burwell*, *Tatiana Gill*, *Ronbert Kirkman* & *Tony Moore*, *M. Carey* & *Mike Collins*, *Ron Boyd*, *J. Torres* & *Steve Rolston*, *Erick Kilkenny* & *Jim Hill*, *Marc Rosenthal*, *Tony Millionaire*, *Stan Sakai*, *Mark Crilley*, *Al Davison*, *Alan Moore* & *Melinda Gebbie*, and *Roberta Gregory*, with *Eric Powell*, *Leinil Francis Yu*, *Dane McKean*, *Pat Moriarty*, *Istvan Banyai*, *David Aloraez*, *Peter Kuper*, *Alex Maleev*, *Humberto Ramos*, *Rich Hedden*, *Mike Mignola*, *Brian Rood*, *Mike Gelpis*, *Ben Stenbeck*, *J.L. Agredo*, and *Steve Guarnaccia* supplying standalone illustrations.

•***September 11 Volume 2*** (produced by DC Comics with WildStorm Productions, Vertigo, Mad Magazine, Cliffhanger, Homage, and Milestone Media) - Award-winning cover artist *Alex Ross* offers a painting (modeled on the legendary Big ***All-American Comics #1***) that shows Superman and Krypto looking—up, appropriately enough—at the heroes whose sacrifice on September 11 served as an inspiration to so many. While familiar characters are featured throughout Volume 2 (in some unfamiliar ways), there are also tales of 'ordinary" people who have given and lost so much in the months since the attacks. Some teams familiar to comics readers are reunited in this historic project, such as *Stan Lee* and *Marie Severin*; *Duwayne McDuffie*, *Denys Cowan*, and *Prentis Rollins*, who offer a new story of Static in the wake of the September 11 attacks; and a tale of the spiritual impact of the loss of the Twin Towers from *J.M. DeMatteis* and *Michael Zulli*. *Will Eisner*, *Joe Kubert*, *Sam Glanzman*, *and Darwyn Cooke* are among the writer/artists who offer distinctive stories in ***Volume Two***.

Other well-known creative teams sharing their talents include ***100 Bullets***' *Brian Azzarello* and *Eduardo Risso* on a story of terror and baseball fans; *Kurt Busiek* and *Brent Anderson* in a story of a firefighter's heroism in the super-hero-filled metropolis of Astro City; and *JSA*'s *David S. Goyer* and *Geoff Johns* joining Out There's *Humberto Ramos* and *Sandra Hope* to offer another perspective. Moving photography-themed looks at life in New York City are offered in a new ***Paparazzi*** story from *Pat McGreal* and artists *Stephen John Phillips* and *Steven Parke*; and a ***Scene of the Crime*** original from *Ed Brubaker* and *Michael Lark* that finds a photo from September 11 playing an important part in a widow's recovery. The sniffer dogs at work at the World Trade Center site are celebrated in a Krypto story from *Jeph Loeb*, *Carlos Pacheco* and *Jesús Merino*, while the unexpected team of *Rick Veitch* and *Sergio Aragonés* offer their take on a little-noted sort of heroism that has taken place every day since the 11th. The dreams and idealism of children in the wake of September 11 are well represented in stories by *Eddie Berganza* and *Kyle Baker* and a one-page piece by *Tim Sale* (from an idea by *Chuck Kim*). And DC's Executive Vice President & Publisher *Paul Levitz* (who also edited the second volume), who has written all too few comics since his tenure on ***Legion of Super-Heroes***, writes two stories, one illustrated by *Joe Staton* and *Bob Smith*, the other by WildStorm's *Jim Lee*.

The full list of contributors includes *Alex Ross*, *Steven T. Seagle*, *Duncan Rouleau* & *Aaron Sowd*, *Will Eisner*, *Joe Kelly*, *Scott Kolins* & *Dan Panosian*, *James Denning* & *Guy Davis*, *Duwayne McDuffie*, *Denys Cowan* & *Prentis Rollins*, *Jo Duffy*, *Todd Nauck* & *Jaime Mendoza*, *Dan Abnett*, *Andy Lanning* & *David Lloyd*, *Paul Levitz*, *Joe Staton* & *Bob Smith*, *Tom Mandrake*, *Kurt Busiek* & *Brent Anderson*, *Gary Fields*, *Pat McGreal*, *Stephen John Phillips* & *Steven Parke*, *Josh Krach*, *Scott McDaniel* & *James Pascoe*, *Darwyn Cooke*, *Jeph Loeb*, *Carlos Pacheco* & *Jesús Merino*, *Hilary J. Bader* & *Sergio Cariello*, *Rick Veitch* & *Sergio Aragonés*, *Mike Carey* & *Marcelo Frusin*, *Beau Smith*, *Val Semeiks* & *Romeo Tanghal*, *Dan McGregor* & *José Luis García-López*, *Mo Willems*, *Ashley-Jayne Nicolaus* & *Rick Burchett*, *Ed Brubaker* & *Michael Lark*, *Keith Giffen* & *William Wray*, *Dan Abnett*, *Andy Lanning*, *Yanick Paquette* & *Jim Royal*, *Brian K. Vaughn*, *Pete Woods* & *Keith Champagne*, *Jennifer Moore* & *Jill Thompson*, *Eddie Berganza* & *Kyle Baker*, *Ben Raab*, *Roger Robinson* & *Dennis Janke*, *Brian Azzarello* & *Eduardo Risso*, *Amanda Conner*, *Eddie Berganza* & *Kyle Baker*, *Mark Wolfman*, *Barry Kitson* & *Rich Faber*, *Peter Gross* & *Darick Robertson* , *Dan Jurgens*, *Alan Davis*, *Robin Riggs*, *Mike Collins* & *Mark Farmer*, *J.M. DeMatteis* & *Michael Zulli*, *Paul Levitz* & *Jim Lee*, *Alex Simmons* & *Angelo Torres*, *Chris Sagira*, *Tom Grummett* & *Tom Palmer* , *Stan Lee* & *Marie Severin*, *Neil Gaiman* & *Chris Bachalo*, *Jamie Delano* & *Goran Sudzuka*, *David S. Goyer*, *Geoff Johns*, *Humberto Ramos* & *Sandra Hope*, *Michael Moorcock*, *Walter Simonson* & *Bob Wiacek*, *Andy Helfer* & *John Cebollero*, *Denny O'Neil*, *Phil Hester* & *Ande Parks*, *Sam Glanzman*, and *Joe Kubert*, with additional standalone illustrations by *Glenn Fabry*, *Kieron Dwyer*, *Daniel Zezelj*, *Richard Corben*, *Dave Gibbons*, *Klaus Janson*, *Brian Stelfreeze*, *Greg and Tim Hildebrandt*, *Alex Horley*, *Steve Scott* & *Evan Torre*, *Tim Sale* (from an idea by *Chuck Kim*), *Cliff Wu Chiang*, *Enrique Breccia*, *John Bolton*, *Phil Jimenez*, *Paul Pope*, *Christopher Moeller*, *John Van Fleet*, *John Lucas*, *Ariel Olivetti*, *Steve Lzzatoha*, *Phil Noto*, *Dave McKean*, *Neal Adams*, *Lee Bermejo*, *Colleen Doran*, *Dave Johnson*, *Paul Gulacy*, *Bill Sienkiewicz*, and *Michael Wm. Kaluta*.

September 11 Volume One is a 196-page book, while ***September 11 Volume Two*** offers 224 pages of powerful story and art. Each volume is priced at $9.95; look for them on January 23rd—and our advice is that you reserve copies now to be sure that you don't miss out!

Forget that Pocketful of Kryptonite—Rowsabout a Pocketful of Heroes?

DC Direct has met with phenomenal success with their detailed, articulated action figure line, as well as their small-sized PVC figure sets. And now they're come up with something to fill the gap: *DC Comics Pocket Super Heroes*!

"We've had such a strong response from retailers and fans to DC Direct's action figure line that we couldn't resist introducing a whole new way to collect the entire DC Universe," *Syndee Barstick*, Director—DC Direct, said. "DC has such a wide scope of colorful characters that they seemed like a natural fit for every fan's pockets."

DC's Design Director *Georg Brewer* offered more info on the *Pocket Heroes*. "The figures have articulation in the neck, shoulders, waist and hips," he told *CSNsider*. "The basic style of the figures grows out of an idea that's similar to Kubricks, Lego and Playmobile type figures. Basically we have developed an 'iconic' muscular superhero body for all of the characters. As much as possible, we have faithfully recreated the costume details with paint operations and added sculpted details like the fin on Dr. Fate's helmet or Shade's top hat."

Rather than asking fans and retailers to buy the figures sight unseen, DC is shipping a special ***Pocket Super Hero Golden Age Wonder Woman Figure*** in mid-

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December; each store will receive one of the figures to display, while the figure is also packaged as a bonus extra along with each *Solomon Grundy Deluxe Action Figure*. "We've planned this program so that retailers and fans would have the chance to see a sample from the line before orders are placed," *Bob Wayne*, DC's VP—Sales & Marketing, said. (If you want one of those bonus figures, though, you'd better act fast—once news got out that the bonus Wonder Woman figure had been added to the *Solomon Grundy Deluxe Figure* package, DC sold through their entire surplus stock even before the figure hit the shops!)

The figures, which stand three inches tall, will be packaged in two-figure sets with a backdrop art and story card with a plastic stand, priced at $9.95 per set.

The first four Pocket Super Heroes sets, solicited in January for release in July, include *Dr. Mid-Nite & the Atom, Aquaman & Black Manta, Green Lantern & Sinestro*, and *Starman & the Shade*. Additional figures coming up in 2002 include *The Flash & Captain Cold, Silver Age Wonder Woman & Cheetah, Red Tornado & Firestorm, Dr. Fate & the Spectre, Cosmic Boy & Saturn Girl, Solomon Grundy & Green Lantern Alan Scott*, and *Mon-el & Lightning Lad*. J'onn J'onzz is an exception: rather than being offered with another hero figure, *The Martian Manhunter* comes in a set with the *Silver Age Justice League of America Meeting Table* (approximately five inches in diameter) with eight chairs.

"Our goal with the *Pocket Super Heroes* is to create as many DC characters as possible so fans can have their own little universes," Brewer said. "We're very excited about the line, and the advance buzz is good."

Big Book of Young Gods

One of the most frequently-lamented unfinished series in recent years is *Barry Windsor-Smith's* ***Storyteller*** series. The treasury-edition-sized comics failed to click with a sufficiently large audience in the mid 90s, and ultimately the series was discontinued by Dark Horse after the ninth issue... which left #s 10-12, which were almost entirely completed, unpublished. But thanks to Fantagraphics Books, material intended for those issues will see print.

In the fall of 2002, "Fantagraphics Books will release the entire ***Young Gods*** series from ***Storyteller*** in one 176-page full-color hardcover graphic novel, in a relatively standard 8 1/2" x 11" size (or close to it)—including the three unpublished chapters from the never-released ***Storyteller*** #10-12," Eric Reynolds of Fantagraphics announced online recently. "***Paradoxman*** should follow in 2003." Reynolds explained that "this new size is only 10% smaller than ***Storyteller***—the art holds up jes' fine." Fall may be three quarters of a year away—but this material is worth the wait!

Joe Simon on Vanguard of Book Deal

Joe Simon's autobiographical volume ***The Comic Book Makers***, long out of print, will be available to fans once again, thanks to the efforts of *J. David Spurlock* and his company, Vanguard Productions—and the book willy be newly revised for this edition.

Vanguard's growing line of comic book reference works, which includes books focusing on the art of *Carmine Infantino, Wally Wood, Nick Cardy*, and *John Romita*, among others, is a perfect home to Simon's inside look at the comic book field, according to Captain America co-creator Simon. "The production quality of Vanguard's books are excellent," Simon said. "*David Spurlock* takes great pride in his work. I am really looking forward to a beautiful book, with top quality art and photographic reproductions. I am sure everyone will be impressed with the updated Vanguard edition."

Vanguard Publisher *J. David Spurlock* said, "Readers have been enchanted with the Golden Age of American Comics through *Michael Chabon's* Pulitzer Prize-winning bestseller, ***The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay***. Isn't it time for the *real* stories of the era, written by an eyewitness and participant of the age? ***The Comic Book Makers*** is exactly such a book. Adding *Joe Simon* to our line is a natural. Among our books on comic art greats *Carmine Infantino, Neal Adams, Wally Wood, Jim Steranko, Hal Foster, Nick Cardy*, and *Al Williamson*, *Joe Simon* is in perfect company."

Look for the revised edition of ***The Comic Book Makers***, co-written with Joe's son *Jim Simon*, next spring.

Shooter & Marvel Re-Assemble for Avengers Project

Jim Shooter, the former editor-in-chief of Marvel who subsequently helped to launch Valiant, Defiant, and Broadway Comics, is getting back to his roots in 2002. That's right, Shooter's returning to Marvel—not as an editor, but as a writer.

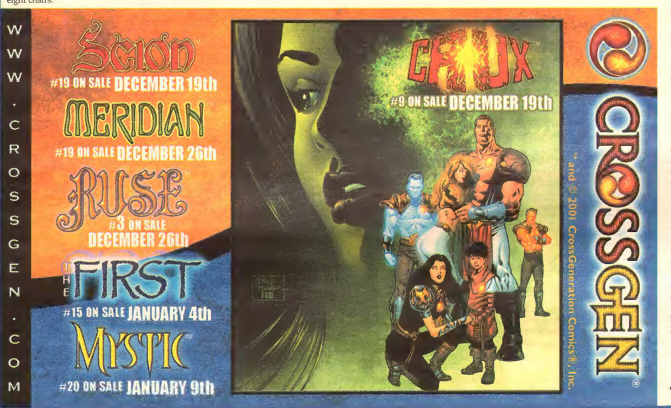
Shooter, who first made his mark in comics as the teenage writer of Legion of Super-Heroes for *Mort Weisinger* in the pages of ***Adventure Comics***, will rejoin Marvel to write an eight-issue series that brings back the cosmic villain Korvac—and talk is already underway of a followup project, as well as a new trade paperback compilation of the original Korvac saga.

Tom Brevoort, editor of the project, hasn't made the final decision on an artist for the series yet, but there's still plenty of time to find an illustrator and get the first issue ready for its May release. "We're thrilled to welcome *Jim Shooter* back into the *Avengers* fold for this brand new comic epic," Brevoort said. "His issues of ***Avengers***-especially the legendary 'Korvac Saga'-still stand out in the minds of many as some of the definitive tales of Earth's Mightiest. From what we've talked about so far regarding the new project, Mr. Shooter surely has not lost his touch!"

"With the Korvac story under way, and another *Avengers*-related project in development, expect Jim to make a big splash in the Avengers' universe next summer!" Brevoort added. "As they say, 'Once an Avenger, always an Avenger!'"

Marvel's current editor-in-chief *Joe Quesada* is quite pleased to be able to bring back Shooter, who led Marvel during some of its most successful years in the 1980s. "There were several balls that I started rolling early on in my first months as EIC, many of them public knowledge, and many of them top secret," Quesada. said "Getting *Jim Shooter* writing for Marvel again was one of those goals. During my early days in the comics industry, I watched with great admiration as Jim began creating the beginnings of what would become the Valiant Universe! It's because of that talent that we contacted Jim early on, and along *Tom Brevoort*, we've taken much care in developing a project that is going to show off his considerable skills!

"I was warned from the onset that bringing Jim back to Marvel would ruffle a few feathers, but the way I saw it, there was no downside... When you look back at some of the greatest stuff ever produced within this company, a significant portion of it was created during his tenure as EIC. So with that said, it's a pleasure welcoming Jim back to The House!"



JANUARY HOT PICKS!

A Comic **Book** to Benefit the American Red Cross

Cause & Effect

9-11: EMERGENCY RELIEF GN

Frank Cho, Guy Davis, Will Eisner, Dan Fraga, Dean Haspiel, Mark Hempel, Phil Hester, James Kochalka, Josh Neufeld, Michael Avon Oeming, Neil Vokes, Mark Wheatley, Ashley Wood, and others (W/A)

(Alternative NOV012111 $14.95)

I LOVE NEW YORK

Joseph Michael Linsner (W/A)

(Linsner.com NOV012440 $2.95)

SEPTEMBER 11 VOLUME ONE

Frank Miller, Alan Moore, Will Eisner, Paul Chadwick, Tony Millionaire, Stan Sakai, Bryan Talbot, Jim Mahfood, Robert Smigel, and others (W); Frank Miller, Will Eisner, Paul Chadwick, Tony Millionaire, Stan Sakai, Bryan Talbot, Jim Mahfood, P. Craig Russell, Dave Gibbons, Peter Kuper, Lenil Yu, Mike Mignola, Alex Maleev, Eric Drooker, and others (A)

(Chaos! Comics/Dark Horse Comics/Image Comics, with assistance from Oni Press, Top Shelf, and others STAR14691 $9.95)

SEPTEMBER 11 VOLUME TWO

Will Eisner, Neil Gaiman, Stan Lee, Joe Kubert, Michael Moorcock, Dennis O'Neil, Kurt Busiek, Geoff Johns, David S. Goyer, Brian Azzarello, Jeph Loeb, Ed Brubaker, Dwayne McDuffie, and others (W); Will Eisner, Chris Bachalo, Joe Kubert, Kyle Baker, Jim Lee, Eduardo Risso, Walter Simonson, Carlos Pacheco, David Lloyd, Michael Lark, Jill Thompson, Brent Anderson, Denys Cowan, Tim Sale, Marie Severin, Alex Ross, and others (A)

(DC/WildStorm/Vertigo/Homage/Cliffhanger/Milestone Media STAR14692 $9.95)

SHI: THROUGH THE ASHES

Billy Tucci (W/A)

(Crusade NOV012301 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

The events of September 11th—among the worst in American history—have brought out the very best in many concerned people across the country... among them a large number of comic book creators who wanted to do something to help others deal with the pain, frustration, and anger stirred by those events, and to help the thousands who are suffering devastating financial hardships. Marvel's Heroes was the first benefit book from a comic book company, but it's far from the last, as this trio of titles demonstrates.

9-11: Emergency Relief is an outpouring of creative compassion from dozens of top creators, including such luminaries as *Will Eisner, Frank Cho, Michael Avon Oeming*, and many others. *I Love New York* is *Dawn* creator *Joseph Michael Linsner's* personal rumination on the heinous attack and the tragic suffering and loss it caused. ***Shi: Through the Ashes*** offers a look at the horror of Ground Zero and the heroism of the common man as seen through the eyes of *Billy Tucci's* popular character. The two-volume ***September 11*** trade paperback set (available as individual volumes) is almost staggering in its scope: each book offers 224 pages of story and art by some of the field's most successful and popular creators, including Frank Miller, Neil Gaiman, Stan Lee, Will Eisner, Joe Kubert, and so many more that it's almost impossible to imagine. And these aren't just pinups—these are powerful and heart-wrenching stories interspersed with evocative chapter-break illustrations that will move and inspire you with their intensity and poignancy.

Why Should You Care?

You'll never find comics more truly inspired and inspiring than these events—and a significant portion of your money goes to worthy disaster relief agencies, so you can help others while you enjoy these moving comic book keepsakes.

ATHENA INC: THE BEGINNING

Brian Haberlin (W); Jay Anacleto (A)

(Image NOV011493 $5.95)

What's the Scoop?

She's the perfect secret agent, because (a) she doesn't know she's an agent, and (b) when she goes into action, everything changes—hair, build, personality, fingerprints, eye color, *everything*—making her absolutely untrackable. So what happens if one of her wants out of the biz?

Why Should You Care?

Take *Brian Haberlin's* no-holds-barred story that sounds like a cinematic blockbuster that someone forgot to film, add amazing visuals by *Aria* fan-fave *Jay Anacleto*, and stand back while it generates its own heat!

AUTHORITY #28

Mark Millar (W); Art Adams & Tim Townsend (A)

(WildStorm/DC SEP010238 $2.50)

What's the Scoop?

The new Authority is in control... and that means very *bad* things for the members of the old Authority, whose suffering has only just begun. There's one problem, though: Midnighter's still alive, as the new Authority is about to discover!

Why Should You Care?

Okay, people have had babies in less time than it took for this storyline to wrap up—but it's proving to be well worth the wait!

This One'll Kill Ya!

BATMAN: THE 10 CENT ADVENTURE

Greg Rucka (W); Rick Burchett & Klaus Janson (A)

(DC NOV010553 10¢; also available in a signed edition (NOV012356 $19.95))

DETECTIVE COMICS #766

Greg Rucka (W); Scott McDaniel & Jesse Delperdang (A)

(DC NOV010554D1 $2.50)

BATGIRL #24

Kelley Puckett (W); Damion Scott & Robert Campanella (A)

(DC NOV010556 $2.50)

NIGHTWING #65

Chuck Dixon (W); Trevor McCarthy & Rob Stull (A)

(DC NOV010557 $2.25)

BATMAN: GOTHAM KNIGHTS #25

Devin Grayson (W); Roger Robinson & John Floyd (A)

(DC NOV010555 $2.50)

BIRDS OF PREY #39

Chuck Dixon (W); Rick Leonardi & Jesse Delperdang (A)

(DC NOV010558 $2.50)

ROBIN #98

Chuck Dixon (W); Pete Woods & Andrew Pepoy (A)

(DC NOV010559 $2.25)

BATMAN #599

Ed Brubaker (W); Scott McDaniel & Andy Owens (A)

(DC NOV010560 $2.25)

What's the Scoop?

There's yet another dead body in Gotham... but this time, the evidence points away from the

city's twisted rogues' gallery and in the direction of a socialite named Bruce Wayne. But just how much can Bruce Wayne reveal about his whereabouts and his nocturnal activities without giving away the secret of his costumed identity? How can his allies help him when he won't help himself? And as long as he continues to hide the truth, how can he prove he's *not* the guilty party? Or does he even *care* if he proves it or not? One of the most compelling Batman stories in history begins here—and you can give the first part a try for only a dime!

Why Should You Care?

Tired of hearing those old fogeys talk about buying new comics for a measly ten cents? If you can't beat 'em, join 'em! And in this case, your dime will get a great introduction to the Batman mythos along with the first installment of a story that'll have comics fans buzzing in 2002.

CREED: UTOPIATE #1

Christina Z & Trent Kaniuga (W); Trent Kaniuga (A)

(Image NOV011498 $2.95; also available in a foil cover edition (NOV012339 $14.99) and a signed foil cover edition (NOV012340 $39.99))

What's the Scoop?

CreeD, the boy who could escape into the fantastic realms of his own imagination, learns that he's not the only one. Lori can venture into a Dreamworld as well... but her world is a horrifying place, and it's up to CreeD to rescue her from the terrors of her own mind.

Why Should You Care?

Trent Kaniuga's magical series takes a darker turn as *Witchblade* co-creator *Christina Z* brings disturbing Lovecraftian undertones and horror-fantasy elements to this four-issue relaunch.

DARK KNIGHT STRIKES AGAIN #2

Frank Miller, W/A; Lynn Varley, (A)

(DC NOV010565 $7.95)

What's the Scoop?

The series that made comics history in early December continues this month—and if you've read the story in the first issue, you'll have to have this one to see what happens next!

Why Should You Care?

If you thought it was impossible for Miller and Varley to top the original Dark Knight, you now realize just how wrong you were!

HOWARD THE DUCK #1

Steve Gerber (W); Phil Winslade (A)

(Marvel/MAX NOV011798 $2.99; also available in a signed edition (NOV012341 $19.99) and a signed sketch edition (NOV012342 $69.99))

What's the Scoop?

The fowl-mouthed misanthrope is back in a mature-readers series that pokes fun at boy bands, politics, and more, Gerber-style.

Why Should You Care?

Gerber's playing a familiar riff for a new century.

JUST IMAGINE STAN LEE... SECRET FILES #1

Stan Lee & Michael Usian (W); Dan Jurgens, Joe Kubert, Dave Gibbons, Kevin Maguire, Chris Bachalo, Walter Simonson, John Byrne, Bob Layton, and others (A)

(DC NOV010593 $4.95; also available in a signed sketch edition (NOV012351 $69.99))

What's the Scoop?

You've seen how Stan reinvented the DCU in the first six months of Just Imagine... Now see what he has in store for the next six months, thanks to this sneak-peek ***Secret Files.***

Why Should You Care?

Robin, Aquaman, Sandman, Catwoman, Shazam, they're all in here... and it leads up to a real *Crisis. Just Imagine!...*

LIBERTY MEADOWS WEDDING ALBUM

Frank Cho (W/A)

(Insight NOV012421 $2.95)

What's the Scoop?

Brandy's getting married... but to whom? That's what you'll find out in this special comic book event that picks up where the soon-to-be-ended comic strip left off.

Why Should You Care?

Frank Cho's enthusiasm for comics has been aptly demonstrated in his monthly compilations of *Liberty Meadows* reprints, complete with eye-catching new covers, as well as his first hardcover collection, which included a new comic book story available nowhere else. Now he makes a valiant effort to turn the rest of the comic-strip-reading world on to the fun of comic books with a tale that wraps up the cliffhanger ending of the final Liberty Meadows comic strip. Don't be surprised if you see some new faces around the comic racks this month—this strip has a lot of fans, and they're going to want to find out how this story ends!

Make Mine Manga!

MARVEL MANGAVERSE: NEW DAWN #1

Ben Dunn (W/A)

(Marvel NOV011807 $2.99)

MARVEL MANGAVERSE: AVENGERS #1

Ken Siu-chong (W); Arnold Tsang, Alvin Lee, Omar Dogan & Shane Law (A)

(Marvel NOV011808 $2.25)

MARVEL MANGAVERSE: FANTASTIC FOUR #1

Adam Warren (W); Keron Grant (A)

(Marvel NOV011809 $2.25)

MARVEL MANGAVERSE: GHOST RIDER #1

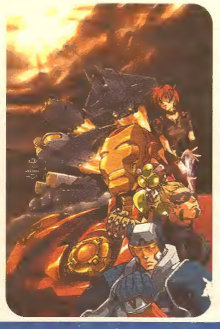
Chuck Austen (W/A)

(Marvel NOV011810 $2.25)

MARVEL MANGAVERSE: PUNISHER #1

Peter David (W); Lea Hernandez (A)

(Marvel NOV011811 $2.25)



MARVEL MANGAVERSE: SPIDER-MAN #1

Keane Andrews (W/A)

(Marvel NOV011812 $2.25)

MARVEL MANGAVERSE: X-MEN #1

C.B. Cebulski (W); Jeff Matsuda (A)

(Marvel NOV011813 $2.25)

MARVEL MANGAVERSE: ETERNAL TWILIGHT #1

Ben Dunn (W/A)

(Marvel NOV011814 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Think of it as a "What If?" event: "what if the Marvel Universe were envisioned by manga creators?" The result is a high-energy eight-book event that offers bold reinterpretations of some of Marvel's most popular characters. The Avengers literally assemble... into a giant robot! The Hulk is a twenty-story tall monster of Godzillian proportions. The Punisher is a schoolteacher by day, a paddling law enforcer by night. Spider-Man is a teenage ninja. Their world goes awry when Bruce Banner attempts to tap into the Negative Zone, a source of virtually unlimited energy... and unprecedented danger!

Why Should You Care?

Marvel's met with more than a little success with their continuity reboots in the Ultimate line and their MAX titles; now they let a handful of talented creators cut loose—and continuity be damned!

MIKE MIGNOLA'S B.P.R.D.: HOLLOW EARTH #1

Mike Mignola, Christopher Golden, & Tom Sniegoski (W); Ryan Sook (A)

(Maverick/Dark Horse NOV010017 $2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Hellboy may have left the team, but the Bureau for Paranormal Research & Defense hasn't shut down—in fact, they're embarking on a mission that could lead them right through the center of the Earth!

Why Should You Care?

Mignola and friends prove that Abe Sapien and the rest of Hellboy's supporting cast can carry on just fine without Big Red.

JANUARY HOT PICKS!

NOBLE CAUSES #1

Jay Faerber (W); Patrick Gleason, Amanda Conner, John Wycough, & Jimmy Palmiotti (A)

(Image NOV011515 $2.95)

What's the Scoop?

An average woman marries into a superhero dynasty, and through her eyes readers get a glimpse at the inside world of a superhero family. What are the Nobles like? Think Kennedies with superpowers and you get an idea of the tone of this compelling series.

Why Should You Care?

Jay Faerber proves that even the most Noble heroes possess some ignoble traits in this feet-of-clay drama. As a bonus, each issue offers two stories—a full-length lead tale and a bonus backup story that focuses on the past of a member of the Noble clan.

ORIGIN #6

Paul Jenkins (W); Andy Kubert & Richard Isanove (A)

(Marvel NOV011826 $3.50)

Final issue of historic Wolverine origin tale by Paul Jenkins, Andy Kubert, and Richard Isanove

What's the Scoop?

The Dickensian melodrama reaches its dramatic conclusion in this miniseries finale—and you can rest assured that Marvel fans everywhere will be talking about the revelations contained herein!

Why Should You Care?

Jenkins, Kubert, and Isanove are making history here!

You Got the Power...

POWER COMPANY: BORK

Kurt Busiek (W); Kieron Dwyer (A)

(DC NOV010551 $2.50)

POWER COMPANY: JOSIAH POWER

Kurt Busiek (W); Keith Giffen & Al Milgrom (A)

(DC NOV010545 $2.50)

POWER COMPANY: MANHUNTER

Kurt Busiek (W); Dan Jurgens & Bob Layton (A)

(DC NOV010549 $2.50; also available in a signed edition (NOV012348 $19.99))

POWER COMPANY: SAPPHIRE

Kurt Busiek (W); Mark Bagley & Mark Farmer (A)

(DC NOV010550 $2.50)

POWER COMPANY: SKYROCKET

Kurt Busiek (W); Joe Staton & Christian Alamy (A)

(DC NOV010548 $2.50)

POWER COMPANY: STRIKER Z

Kurt Busiek (W); Ramon Bachs & Raul Fernandez (A)

(DC NOV010546 $2.50)

POWER COMPANY: WITCHFIRE

Kurt Busiek (W); Matt Haley & Karl Kesel (A)

(DC NOV010547 $2.50)

What's the Scoop?

Kurt Busiek's breaking into the DCU in a big way: seven oneshots, each starring a different member of his "superhero firm." You met 'em as a team in the pages of December's ***JLA #61;*** now you'll see where they came from, what their powers are, and what they bring to The Power Company. Oh, yeah—there are also some guest-stars in these books that you might recognize, including Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman, the Flash, Green Lantern, Nightwing, Superboy, and the JLA...

Why Should You Care?

Kurt Busiek's proven his skill at superteam writing with ***Thunderbolts, The Defenders,*** and ***The Avengers;*** he's established himself as a master of character-driven storytelling in ***Astro City.*** Now he gets to bring both skills to play in this story that focuses on the individuals who make up this new super-team... and he 's playing in a whole new (for him) sandbox—the DC Universe! (And there's also a little matter of this new Manhunter who's showing up as a part of the team...)

SANDMAN PRESENTS THE THESSALIAD #1

Bill Willingham (W); Shawn McManus (A)

(Vertigo/DC NOV010630 $2.50; also available in a signed edition (NOV012354 $19.95))

What's the Scoop?

Thessaly, one of Sandman's former lovers, is on the run from a pack of killer dogs known as "The Daughters of Garm" and a group of homeless gods who plan on making a meal of the last of the Thessalian witches. So, accompanied by a critter known as Fetch, she seeks refuge via the Allegorical Subway in a strange, sometimes surreal tale that features some surprising guest-stars.

Why Should You Care?

Bill Willingham, whose previous ***Sandman*** projects have played it for laughs, gets more serious in this four-parter—and he's joined by *Shawn McManus*, who supplied some of the art for the ***Game of You*** storyline that introduced Thessaly.

SAURIANS: UNNATURAL SELECTION #1

Mark Waid (W); Andrea DiVito, Rob Hunter, Wil Quintana (A)

(CrossGen NOV012293 $2.95)

What's the Scoop?

You've seen the war between the Tcharun and the Planetary Union in the pages of ***Sigil***—but now you can witness a turning point in that war in this two-part series that focuses on a surprising discovery made by a Tcharun soldier.

Why Should You Care?

Think of it as a ***Sigil*** backstory that was too big for ***CrossGen Chronicles***!

TRUTH SERUM #1

Jon Adams (W/A)

(Amaze Ink NOV012113 $2.95)

More or less a super-hero comic set in suburban Manchester, where no one is particularly super

What's the Scoop?

Okay, it's a superteam comic... but just barely. These heroes aren't particularly super, and they're located in suburban Manchester, where it doesn't really matter. Sometimes the good guys win, sometimes the bad guys win, but few people really notice... and life goes on either way.

Why Should You Care?

Jon Adams' irreverent, working-class-superhero approach is a refreshing, down-to-earth variation on the superhero standard. Like superheroes with human problems? Here ya go!

ULTIMATES #1

Mark Millar (W); Bryan Hitch & Andrew Currie (A)

(Marvel NOV011803 $2.25; also available in a signed edition (NOV012059 $49.99) and a signed sketch edition (NOV012060 $89.99))

What's the Scoop?

If you can't beat 'em, join 'em—or, in Nick Fury's case, get them to join you! When the world seems overrun by super-powered beings, the best course of action is to recruit your own superteam... and that's what Fury does. His Ultimates include Iron Man, Giant-Man, the Wasp, the Hulk, Thor, and Captain America... but these aren't the superheroes you've come to know over the past forty years!

Why Should You Care?

Mark Millar, Bryan Hitch, and *Andrew Currie* have come up with an Ultimate revamp with a strong Marvel Knights flavor.

UNDEAD #1

Brian Pulido (W) Brian Denham (A)

(Chaos/Black Label NOV012217 $4.99)

What's the Scoop?

Think Night of the Living Dead meets the Sims: Undead is set years after the living dead have taken over, zombifying society and transforming human into livestock. Now it's up to the anti-hero known as the Undead to save the living.

Why Should You Care?

Sure, there have been oodles of zombie stories in comics and film—but few creators have explored the long-term ramifications of such a radical shift. Pulido presents a world in which human beings are an endangered species... but this world has no government watchdog agency to protect them!

Overlooked Sizzler of the Month

BONEYARD #5

Richard Moore (W/A)

(NBM NOV012453 $2.95)

The first ***Boneyard*** story arc was so much fun that we hated to see it come to an end—and as it turns out, it didn't! *Richard Moore*, one of 2001's most versatile creators, really hit his stride with this dark comedy tale of a young man who inherits a haunted cemetery; in the hands of a lesser creator, the story could have ventured into predictable silliness, but Moore blends quirky characterization, crisp plotting, and eye-catching visuals to make ***Boneyard*** a thoroughly delightful read. And if you missed the first four-parter, don't fret—NBM is making it available in trade paperback!

FYI

(Great Additions to Your Reference Library)

B. KRIGSTEIN VOL 1 HC Fantagraphics NOV012365 $49.95

Hefty 240-page oversized book tracing Bernard Krigstein's life and work; the first of two volumes; the analytical, comprehensive look at Krigstein's life and career sets a new standard for comic book creator studies

HOW TO COLOR COMICS GUIDE TO COMPUTER COLOR-

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www.paradigmcomic.com

ING COLLECTED CD EDITION Antarctic NOV012142 $24.95
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HOW TO COLOR COMICS: GUIDE TO COMPUTER COLORING COLLECTED EDITION Antarctic NOV012141 $9.95
Compiling the first two issues in one edition

Cool Collections
(January's Best Reprint Titles)

AKIKO VOL 5 TP Sirius NOV012499 $12.95
Reprinting Akiko #'s 26-31
ART OF JOHN BOLTON TP SQP NOV012669 $19.95
Reprinting the cosmic melodrama by Steve Englehart, Sal Buscema, Dave Cockrum, and others
BLACK PANTHER: ENEMY OF THE STATE TP 1/23 Marvel OCT011906 $16.95
Reprinting Black Panther #'s 6-12
BLACKMARK TP Fantagraphics NOV012363 $16.95
Collecting the first two volumes of Gil Kane's landmark fantasy series from the early 1970s
DAREDEVIL: PARTS OF A HOLE TP 1/30 Marvel OCT011908 $16.95
Reprinting Daredevil #'s 9-15 by David Mack, Joe Quesada, and Jimmy Palmiotti
DEMONSLAYER VOL 1 HC Avatar NOV012171 $39.95
DEMONSLAYER VOL 1 TP Avatar NOV012170 $19.95
Reprinting the fantasy-adventure series by Marat Mychaels
DIRTY PAIR: RUN FROM THE FUTURE TP 1/4 Dark Horse OCT010035 $14.95
Kei & Yuri are given 100 minutes to extradite 50 assorted terrorists and technocriminals from this deep-space hellhole in this story by Adam Warren and Ryan Kinnaird
DRAGONBALL Z VOL 7 TP 1/23 Viz NOV012551 $12.95
This graphic novel collects Dragonball Z Volume 4 #3 through Volume 4 #8. In this volume
ESSENTIAL CAPTAIN AMERICA VOL 2 TP 1/16 Marvel OCT011904 $14.95
Reprinting those classic Cap tales from #'s 103-126, featuring art by Jack Kirby, Jim Steranko, John Romita, and others
ESSENTIAL HOWARD THE DUCK TP 1/30 Marvel OCT011909 $14.95
The entire run of Howard the Duck tales is collected in this 528-page trade paperback
FANTASTIC FIRSTS TP 1/4 Marvel OCT011899 $29.95
428-page volume reprinting he first appearance of Spider-Man, the FF, Hulk, Iron Man, Sub-Mariner, Ant-Man, Thor, Dr. Strange, Sgt. Fury & the Howling Commandos, Daredevil, Silver Surfer, S.H.I.E.L.D., the Avengers, Captain America, & X-Men
FANTASTIC FIRSTS TP SIGNED DF/Marvel NOV012066 $149.99
FATHOM COMPLETE LEATHER BOUND HC REMARKED DF NOV012322 $199.99
FATHOM COMPLETE LEATHER BOUND HC SIGNED DF NOV012321 $69.99
Reprinting the first seven issues of Michael Turner's series
GOLDEN AGE GREEN LANTERN ARCHIVES VOL 2 HC 1/23 DC NOV010582 $49.95
Reprinting Alan Scott's adventures from All-American Comics #'s 31-38 and Green Lantern Comics #'s 2 & 3, with an introduction by Jerry Bails
JACK STAFF: YESTERDAY'S HEROES VOL 1 TP Dancing Elephant NOV012304 $15.95
Jack Staff was Britain's greatest hero, but then 20 years ago, he disappeared and everybody forgot about him; now he's back to confront a sixty-year-old nightmare
LONE WOLF & CUB VOL 17: WILL OF THE FANG TP 1/30 Dark Horse OCT010037 $9.95
A female yakuza and her band are ordered to catch Lone Wolf and Cub, but the authorities aren't counting on a woman's heart
MARVEL MASTERWORKS SPIDER-MAN VOL 1 HC SIGNED DF NOV012337 $199.99
MARVEL MASTERWORKS: AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #'S 1-10 HC 1/23 Marvel OCT011907 $49.95
Now back in print, the first eleven Spider-Man adventures
NO NEED FOR TENCHI VOL 11 TP 1/16 Viz NOV012553 $15.95
ODDVILLE TP 1/30 Oni NOV012471 $10.95
Reprinting the Oddville strips by Jay Stephens, which paved the way for Jetcat's Clubhouse
PATRICK THE WOLF BOY VOL 2 TP Blind Wolf NOV012197 $10.00
Collects the Valentine Special, Mother's Day Special, and Summer Special, along with a brand new story
PETER PARKER, SPIDER-MAN: NIGHTIER THAN THE SWORD TP 1/23/01 Dark Horse/Maverick OCT010021 $13.95
Reprinting the latest Groo miniseries by Mark Evanier and Sergio Aragones
SPYBOY VOL 4: BOMB APPETITE TP 1/9 Dark Horse OCT010017 $9.95
Featuring 88 pages of fast-paced action-adventure by Peter David and Pop Mhan
STAR WARS INFINITIES: A NEW HOPE TP 1/25 Dark Horse NOV010065 $12.95
Reprinting the fascinating four-part "infinite possibilities" series that reveals what would have happened had Luke's attack on the Death Star failed
TIME TRAVELER AI BOOK 3: SEXY NINJA GIRL TP CPM NOV012289 $15.95

Sexy film star Ai time-travels back to Medieval Japan and becomes a ninja

TOMORROW STORIES BOOK ONE HC 1/4 ABC/DC NOV010617 $24.95
Reprinting the first six issues of Alan Moore's anthology series in a single 176-page volume that contains two dozen stories
TOMORROW STORIES BOOK ONE HC REMARKED DF NOV012352 $69.99
WHITE TRASH TP Heroes for Sale NOV012410 $16.95
Re-collecting the original four-part White Trash miniseries from 1992, and the extremely hard-to-find pair of back-up, prequel stories that appeared in the pages of Heavy Metal

Molten Merchandise
(January's Hottest Comics-Related Collectibles)

ACE THE BATHOUND SOFT TOY 1/23 DC Direct JUL010400 $14.95
The Darkdog Detective is the latest soft toy from DC Direct
BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER: DRUSILLA ORNAMENT 1/31 BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER NOV013180 $14.95
BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER: GENTLEMAN #1 ORNAMENT 1/31 BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER NOV013181 $14.95
BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER: GENTLEMAN #2 ORNAMENT 1/31 BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER NOV013182 $14.95

JANUARY HOT PICKS!

CHRIS WARE LUNCH BOX 1/23 Dark Horse SEP010061H3 $19.99
Featuring art by the creator of Acme Novelty Library
CLASSIC SUPERMAN MINI BUST 1/16 DC Direct AUG010282 $45.00
Tim Bruckner sculpts a Golden-Age-inspired Superman bust
DIRTY PAIR STATUE 1/30 Dark Horse SEP010101H3 $175.00
Adam Warren does the designs for this Big Chief Studios sculpture of Kei and Yuri
DR. STRANGE MINI BUST 1/31 Bowen Designs NOV013196 $40.00
GREEN ARROW STATUE 1/9 DC Direct AUG010284 $195.00
Tim Bruckner presents a full-sized sculpt of the Emerald Archer, based on designs by current Green Arrow cover artist Matt Wagner
GREEN LANTERN CORPS JOHN STEWART ACTION FIGURE 1/30 DC Direct JUL010406 $19.95
John Stewart's having a great season — first he joins the JLA in the new animated series, and now he gets his own action figure!
GREEN LANTERN CORPS TOMAR RE ACTION FIGURE 1/30 DC Direct JUL010407 $19.95
The classic alien Green Lantern earns his own action figure
HULK RESIN STATUE GREEN VERSION 1/31 Bowen Designs NOV013193 $199.95
HULK RESIN STATUE GREY VERSION 1/31 Bowen Designs NOV013194 $199.95
The gamma-irradiated hero is the latest star of Bowen's two-version statue line
JOSEPH LINSNER'S DAWN: ANGEL SLAYER LITHOGRAPH DF NOV012323 $19.99
JOSEPH LINSNER'S DAWN: ANGEL SLAYER LITHOGRAPH SIGNED DF NOV012325 $39.99
MARVEL 40TH ANNIV HEROES VS VILLAINS LITHOGRAPH DF/Marvel NOV012052 $29.99
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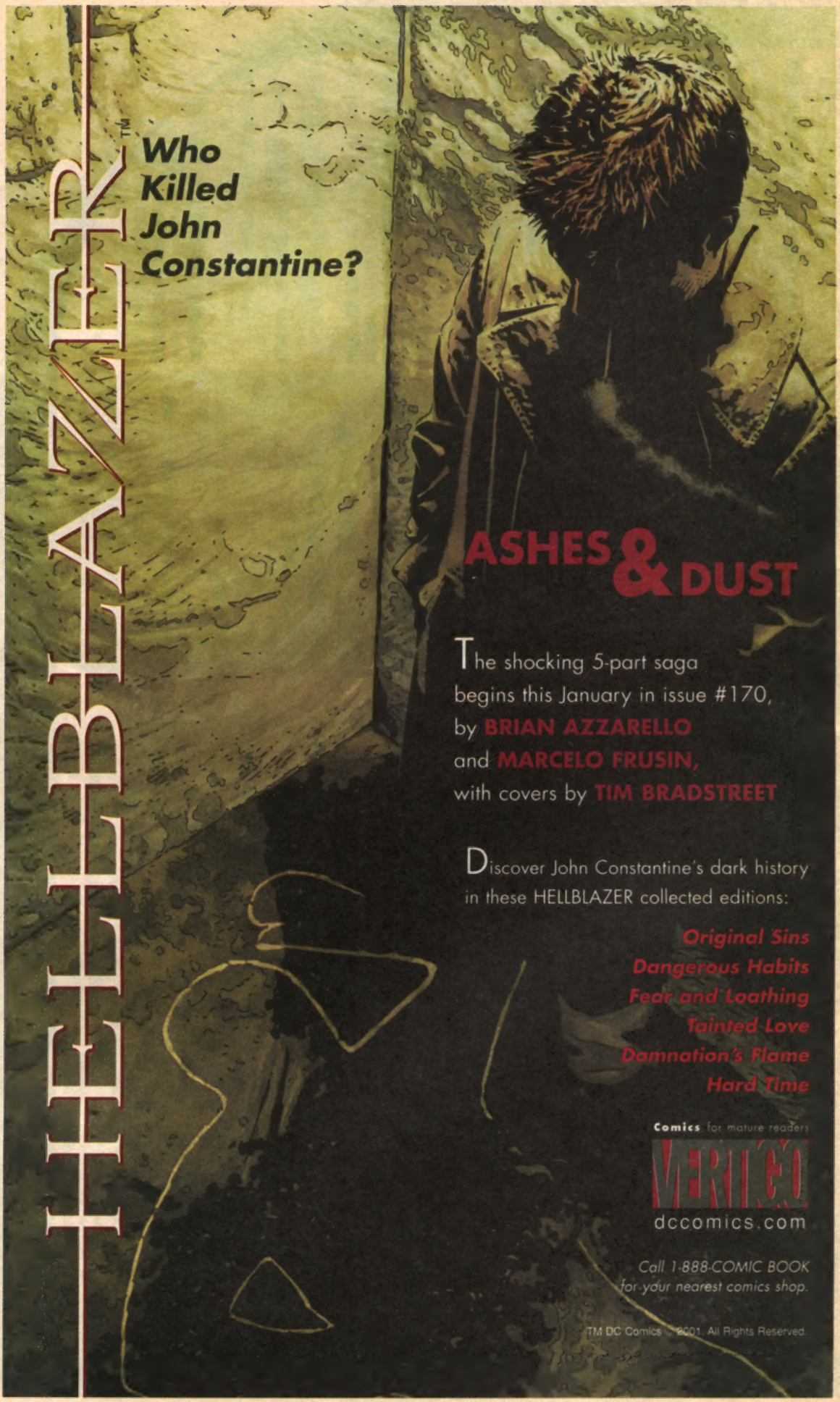
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